

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at lines 5-17 on page 10 with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 2A is a side view of the present invention, showing a spring contact element 24 coupled to a substrate 26 at one end and having a tip structure 20 coupled thereto at an opposite end. Figure 2B is a pictorial illustration of the tip structure 20 of the present invention, having a blade 22 on the upper surface of the tip structure 20. In this embodiment of the present invention, the blade 22 comprises a contact element whose faces when extended form a line in space. When the tip structure 20 is placed in contact with a terminal 44 of an electronic component (~~not shown~~) 42 and a force F is applied, the tip structure 20 will deflect across the surface of the terminal 44. As the tip structure 20 deflects across the terminal 44, the blade 22 of the tip structure 20 will penetrate the non-conductive layer on the surface of the terminal 44. Figure 2C is a side view of the present invention. The dashed lines of Figure 2C show the interconnection element 24 and tip structure 22 after the deflection across the terminal 44. ΔX represents the amount of lateral (or horizontal) deflection of the tip structure 20.